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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/922,058	PAULIKS ET AL.	
	Examiner Cam Y T. Truong	Art Unit 2162	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 7/1/2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7-15, 17-27 and 29-32.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

RD

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17-27 and 29-32 are pending in this Office Action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Marisa J. Dubuc Registration No. 46,673 on 8/16/2005.

Please replace claims 1, 10, 11, 22, 23 and 32 with amended claims 1, 10, 11, 22, 23 and 32.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for performing master planning priority assignment, the method comprising:

creating at least one rule database that includes fields for specifying attributes relating to customer demand files and related priorities;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field; said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match;

if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and

if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and

based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for master planning priority assignment, the method comprising:

creating at least one rule database;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field, the demand record attribute field includes at least one of a due date, customer, and demand type, said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match; if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and; if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for performing master planning priority assignment, the system comprising:

a storage device storing master planning priority assignment data;

a user system; and

a host system in communication with said storage device and said user system, said host system implementing a process comprising:

creating at least one rule database;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field; said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match;

if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and

if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and

based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for performing master planning priority assignment, the system comprising:

at least one rule database that includes fields for specifying attributes relating to customer demand files and related priorities;

a storage device storing master planning priority assignment data associated with said at least one rule database;

a user system; and

a host system in communication with said storage device and said user system, said host system implementing a process comprising:

creating said at least one rule database;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field, the demand record

attribute field includes at least one of a due date, customer, and demand type, said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match;

if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and

if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and

based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

23. (Currently Amended) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for performing master planning priority assignment, the storage medium storing instructions for causing a host system to implement a method comprising:

creating at least one rule database that includes fields for specifying attributes relating to customer demand files and related priorities;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field; said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match;

if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and

if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and

based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

32. (Currently Amended) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for performing master planning priority assignment, the storage medium storing instructions for causing a host system to implement a method comprising:

creating at least one rule database;

assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand record containing a demand record attribute field and a demand record priority field, the demand record

attribute field includes at least one of a due date, customer, and demand type, said assigning including:

selecting said at least one rule database, said at least one rule database including at least one record, a rule database attribute field that correlates to said demand record attribute field, and a rule database priority field;

querying said at least one rule database for a corresponding rule database record that contains data in said rule database attribute field that matches data in said demand record attribute field, said matching comprising:

querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match;

if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and;

if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and

based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17-27 and 29-32 are allowed.

None of the available prior art of record such as Jenkins teaches or fairly suggest "said matching comprising: querying said at least one rule database for an explicit data match; if no said explicit data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a hierarchy value match; and if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value data match exists, querying said at least one rule database for a wildcard match; and based upon said querying, updating data in said demand record priority field with data from said corresponding rule database priority field" in the specific combination as recited in claims 1, 1, 10, 11, 22, 23 and 32.

The dependent claims, bring definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042 . The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cam-Y Truong

8/16/2005


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER